



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/517,099	07/05/2005	Mirco Rossetti	P-US-PR-1080	1117

7590 01/24/2007  
Adan Ayala  
Black & Decker Corporation  
701 East Joppa Road TW 199  
Towson, MD 21286

EXAMINER
----------

LEE, LAURA MICHELLE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3724

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/24/2007	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/517,099

Applicant(s)

ROSSETTI ET AL.

Examiner

Laura M. Brean

Art Unit

3724

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12/5/2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,8,9,11,17 and 21-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,8,9,11,17 and 21-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments filed 12/05/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The applicant contends that the first and second portions of the Myhre fence are not substantially coplanar. This argument is not found persuasive. As shown in Figure 1, both fence portions, 32/32A are in the same plane of the working surface. Secondly, as the applicant indents that the both fence portions are substantially coplanar in the plane perpendicular to the working surface, the fence portions are capable of being located in such a position. The fence assembly is capable of being moved and adjusted until the fence guide surfaces are parallel to each other by sliding the fence members by means of the screws 30 & 38 along the slots (26/35).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Myhre (U.S. Patent 4,464,962). Myhre discloses a miter guide device but does not disclose that is it used with a miter saw, per se, but rather with a table saw. However, since the table saw is being used with a miter guide device that allows the table saw to perform a

Art Unit: 3724

miter cut, it is in effect also a "miter saw." Therefore, Myhre discloses a miter saw comprising: a base (work surface, 10) comprising a working surface having a first and second guide track (track slots 15/16); a saw assembly pivotally connected to the base, the saw assembly comprising a blade (11), the blade being movable (rotatable) in a first cutting plane the cutting plane intersecting the working surface along a first cutting line (along the blade's radial axis); and an adjustable elongated fence (20,21) mounted on and supported by the working surface (10), the fence being angularly displaceable relative to the first cutting line (via screw 37), and longitudinally adjustable (via screw 31) along the cutting line so that the fence is disposable in a first position defining a first plane supporting a workpiece and a second position defining a second plane supporting the workpiece, the first and second planes being substantially parallel. The assembly is capable of being moved in a multitude of parallel positions by rotating the workpiece guide surfaces, 33 and 33A by screws 37 until the guide surfaces are parallel to each other and then moving them longitudinally along the work surface by adjusting screws, 31.

Myhre further discloses that the fence comprises: a first portion (32) disposed on one side of the cutting line and substantially perpendicular to the working surface, a first track follower member (screw, 31) connected to the first portion (20) and in cooperative sliding engagement with the first guide track (15), the fence (20/21) being pivotally mounted about the track follower member (31) (the fence is capable of pivoting about screw 31), a second portion (32A) disposed on the other side of the cutting line, the second portion (32A) capable of being substantially coplanar with the first portion and

Art Unit: 3724

substantially perpendicular to the working surface, a second track follower member (31A) connected to the second portion (32A) and in cooperative sliding engagement with the second guide track (16), and a rigid support element (22) extending outside the first plane when in the first position and extending between the first and second portions (32 / 32A).

In regards to claim 3, Myhre discloses wherein the working surface (10) is non-adjustably mounted on the base.

In regards to claim 4, Myhre discloses wherein the working surface comprises a recessed channel (14)

In regards to claim 5, Myhre discloses wherein the fence (28) comprises at least one releasable restraining member (screws, 37) for restraining the fence to the work surface in a plurality of angularly adjusted orientations relative to the cutting line.

In regards to claim 6, Myhre discloses wherein the fence comprises a restraining member comprising a first member (shaft, 25; Figure 3) disposed in the working surface (10) and threadingly engaged to a second member (screw, 31) disposed on the fence (20,21).

In regards to claim 8, Myhre discloses wherein the fence (20,21) extends over the cutting line (Figure 1).

In regards to claim 9, Myhre discloses wherein the fence (22) comprises a recess (the break between the right end of 33 and the left end of 33A) for overlying the cutting line in the working surface.

Art Unit: 3724

In regards to claim 10, Myhre discloses wherein the fence (20,21) comprises at least two separate elongated sections (20,21), each section presenting a support face capable of extending perpendicular to the working surface and lying in a same fence plane, with the recess formed by a break between said separate sections.

In regards to claim 11, Myhre discloses wherein at least one of the first and second portions so to accommodate the blade when the cutting plane is inclined relative to the working surface.

In regards to claim 17, Myhre discloses wherein the first track follower member (31) is longitudinally adjustable along the fence via cross arm 27.

In regards to claim 21, Myhre discloses wherein the working surface (10) comprises an array of first engagement means (plurality of locating holes, 217) for cooperative releasable engagement with at least one second engagement means (knob, 210) on the fence for restraining the fence on the working surface at a predetermined angular inclination relative to the cutting line, wherein engagement of the second engagement means with a different one of the array of first engagement means (217) restrains the fence(28) in a second predetermined angle relative to the cutting line (Figure 2).

In regards to claim 22, Myhre discloses wherein the first engagement means comprises an array of holes (217) in the working surface and the second engagement means comprises at least one projection member (210) for engagement with one of the array of holes.

Art Unit: 3724

In regards to claim 23, Myhre discloses wherein the projection member is longitudinally adjustable along the fence.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Myhre in view of Owens (U.S. Patent 6,263,584). Myhre discloses the claimed invention except that the saw blade is adjustable so as to adjustably incline the cutting plane relative to the work surface. However, attention is directed to the Owens device that discloses that it is old and well known to provide angular movement of a table saw blade in order to achieve various angular cuts. The inclined angle allows the blade to make bevel cuts and is necessary in cutting crown molding, and other endeavors that require an angled joint. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to have provided for the additional angle of rotation in the Myhre device so that the blade could be inclined to the cutting plane relative to the work surface for the added advantage to producing beveled cut in the work piece as valued in crown molding and joint assembly cutting as taught by Owens.

6. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Myhre in view of Owens and in further view of Pollak et al. (U.S. Patent 5,097,601), herein referred to as Pollak. Myhre as modified by Owens discloses the claimed invention except that the wherein at least one of the first and second portions (32 /32A) is inclined so as to accommodate the blade when the cutting plane is inclined relative to the working surface. As it is old and well known in the art to provide for angular rotation of the blade to allow for angular cutting, it additionally old and well known to incline the ends of the fence to accommodate the angular change of the cutting blade. References to Pollack, Osborne, and Liu, all disclose fence systems for use with a table saw, wherein the ends are chamfered, and thus inclined relative to the working surface. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have modified the ends of the Myhre fences to have a chamfered edge as taught by Pollack so that the fence could be positioned closer to the cutting blade and thus provide a stronger support for the workpiece.

### ***Conclusion***

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Laura M. Brean whose telephone number is (571) 272-8339. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 4:30pm.

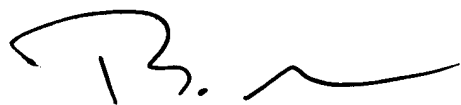


Art Unit: 3724

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Boyer Ashley can be reached on (571) 272-4502. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

LMB  
1/10/2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Ashley', with a stylized flourish at the end.

BOYER D. ASHLEY  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER